

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2510



CONTACT: Carl DeWing
(916) 419-2525
(916) 826-8287 (Cell Phone)

July 1, 2004
PR 04-31

LAPD RECEIVES LARGEST ABC GRANT TO FIGHT ALCOHOL RELATED CRIME

Los Angeles – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) today awarded the largest ABC grant in the State to the Los Angeles Police Department. ABC Director Jerry R. Jolly issued a ceremonial \$125,000 check to LAPD Chief William J. Bratton to be used in fighting alcohol-related crime.

And for the first time, \$25,000 of the grant funds will be used to target alcohol-related crime specifically in the Hollenbeck Division, while the rest will go for city-wide enforcement of alcohol laws. The special funding for Hollenbeck was due primarily to the efforts of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez and other State and local officials in assisting residents of the area to get rid of problem bars and liquor stores. The funds will be used to deal with illegal drugs in ABC licensed businesses, alcohol sales to minors and obviously intoxicated patrons, illegal solicitation of alcohol, and other criminal activities.

Said ABC Director Jolly, "This is the ninth ABC grant totaling more than \$900,000 given to the LAPD since 1996, with significant results. Counting today's revocation of Mi Barra, a total of 70 liquor outlets have been shut down for various reasons resulting in a positive impact on the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods."

Chief Bratton said the ABC grants have been a tremendous help in keeping in check the nearly 6,000 liquor outlets in the city. Said Bratton, "The LAPD will continue to work with licensees to help them understand their responsibilities in the selling and serving of alcoholic beverages. The LAPD STAR Program, which stands for Standardized Training for Alcohol Retailers, will be expanded to educate licensees and their employees in promoting the responsible sale, service and distribution of alcoholic beverages within the City."

"Enhancing the Los Angeles Police Department's ability to enforce and reduce alcoholic beverage control problems goes far towards improving the quality of life in neighborhoods throughout the city," said Mayor Jim Hahn.

The special \$25,000 set aside for the Hollenbeck Division will be used to deal with a 61% increase in the number of traffic collisions involving DUI drivers in 2003, compared to the previous year. In 2004, there have been an average of ten DUI involved collisions per month, with indications that many ABC licensed locations in the Hollenbeck Area are selling alcohol to obviously intoxicated patrons.

The LAPD is one of 24 local law enforcement agencies around the State to receive a portion of the \$1.5 million in ABC grants. For a list of grant agencies, go to the ABC web site at www.abc.ca.gov, and click on ABC Special Programs.